

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /040 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/P:MJERABEK:ST

APPROVED BY EUR/P:FJSEIDNER

EUR/SOV - MR. BARRY (INFO)

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R 020425Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 217716

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR

SUBJECT:PRESS SUMMARY - SEPTEMBER 1

1. WP (3) SOVIET UNION HAS PURCHASED AN ADDITIONAL 275,000 METRIC TONS OF WHEAT BUT THE SALE IS NOT EXPECTED TO RAISE DOMESTIC FOOD PRICES ACCORDING TO AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS. LATEST SALE RAISES TOTAL WHEAT AND CORN SALES TO 4.6 MILLION TONS UNDER THE FIVE YEAR AGREEMENT LAST FALL. (ALL PAPERS)

2. WP (9) AP FROM MOSCOW REPORTS 15 YOUNG AMERICANS, IN USSR FOR TWO MONTHS UNDER AN EXCHANGE SPONSORED BY 4-H AND SOVIET MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LEAVE WITH RESPECT FOR WORKERS THEY MET BUT WITH DOUBTS ABOUT EFFICIENCY OF SOVIET AGRICULTURE, CITING OVERSUPPLIES OF LABOR AND MACHINERY BREAKDOWNS. THEY WERE WARMLY RECEIVED BY FARM WORKERS.

3. NYT (2) THE ADMINISTRATION'S TOP DISARMAMENT EXPERT, FRED IKLE, DIRECTOR OF ACDA, ACCUSED SOVIET UNION OF ATTEMPTING TO ALTER THE STRATEGIC WEAPONS BALANCE WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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U.S. BY INTRODUCING A NEW IRBM MIRV MISSILE IN EASTERN

EUROPE, IN A SPEECH IN LOS ANGELES. CALLING ACTION
"A MASSIVE UNWARRANTED AND UNEXPLAINED EXPANSION" HE

SAID IT COULD DAMAGE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A NEW SALT
AGREEMENT.

4. CSM (1) ARTICLE BY SPERLING STATES THAT A LONG-TIME
CONSULTANT OF PRESIDENT FORD TOLD THE MONITOR THAT
MR. FORD "MAY WELL" CLINCH A LAST-MINUTE ARMS AGREEMENT
WITH THE SOVIETS BEFORE THE ELECTION. FORD ASSOCIATE
HAS RECOMMENDED A SUMMIT AND FURTHER SAID HE KNOWS
WHERE NEGOTIATIONS ARE AND THIS IS POSSIBLE.

5. CSM (3) DAVE WILLIS REPORTS FROM MOSCOW WESTERN
ANALYSTS ARE PAYING ATTENTION TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT
PREMIER KOSYGIN MAY SOON BE REPLACED, AND SPECULATING
ON WHAT THAT MAY MEAN FOR FUTURE SOVIET POLICIES.
ANALYSTS STRESS THEY HAVE NO FIRM KNOWLEDGE BUT
ARE INTRIGUED BY VICTOR LOUIS' REPORT OF HEART
ATTACK AND NEAR DROWNING. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROCUREMENT, WHEAT, PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE217716
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MJERABEK:ST
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760333-0393
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760996/aaaadepp.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cahillha
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 FEB 2004 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <18 JAN 2005 by cahillha>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS SUMMARY - SEPTEMBER 1
TAGS: PFOR, US, UR
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006